MMR_0563 Peter Jackson Australia Region

Mary and I have lived in the beautiful Adelaide Hills at Aldgate in South Australia for some 40 years. Initially trained in finance, I spent most of my working years in the mining and construction sectors in a variety of senior positions – employment that enabled me to see much of Australia and the USA as well as parts of south-east Asia. Having moved into retirement from full-time work some years ago, I'm now spending more time in the studio which houses the Eureka Valley Narrow Gauge Railroad (EVNGR). However, in recent times Mary and I have had frequent trips to Sydney, Perth and Auckland where five grandchildren have been growing up.

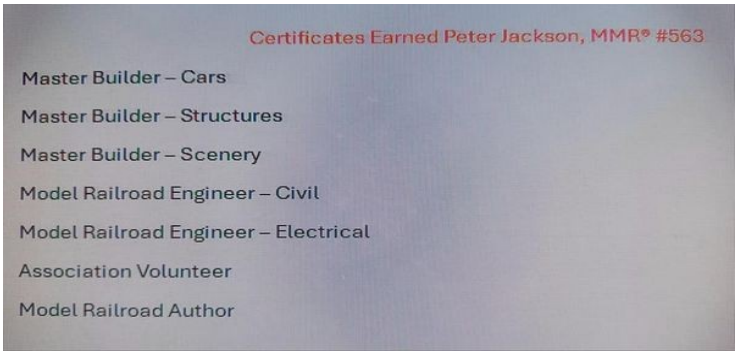
I've always had a strong interest in model building, but the railway theme has consistently pervaded my modelling efforts (initially in HO scale) over the years. I guess I gained skills in working with my hands having come from a family of tradesmen whilst growing up in Melbourne, Victoria. But I did not get the chance to build a layout of any significance until we moved to Adelaide to start a new job in 1984.

I was fortunate to get Mary to agree to buy a house with an established steel structure located in the garden, near the house. And then it took some years to get around to installing power, insulation, lighting and carpet. Whilst these activities were underway, I started collecting and building in O scale and eventually settled on On3 for the soon to be built EVNGR.

I regard active model railroaders as 'artists' working in a three-dimensional art form and describe myself as such to those interested in my hobby. As a result, I model and build in a 'studio' – not a 'shed' or 'train room'.

The hobby itself offers so many opportunities to develop skills and expertise in a wide variety of areas – and we model railroaders need to do a much better job of ensuring that what we do is described as something other than just 'playing with toy trains'.

The hobby has given me lots of opportunities to make friends and share ideas – and membership of the NMRA and the challenges of the Achievement Program have helped develop my skills and knowledge. My philosophy these days is very simple – 'get on and give it a go! And be prepared to tell people about our model railroading hobby and the benefits that it offers to people of all ages and skill levels.


Certificates Earned Peter Jackson, MMR® #563
Master Builder – Cars
Master Builder – Structures
Master Builder – Scenery
Model Railroad Engineer – Civil
Model Railroad Engineer – Electrical
Association Volunteer
Model Railroad Author

PLEASE CONTINUE READING ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE

My Eureka Valley Narrow Gauge Railroad (EVNGR) is an On3 layout and has been developed over about 25 years – modified and expanded from time to time as we model railroaders are prone to do.

The theme for the Eureka Valley Narrow Gauge Railroad (ENGVR) has its origins to the Nevada County Narrow Gauge – a 3'gauge railroad that serviced some of the gold mining areas of northern California.

Peter's inspiration came from reading Gerald Best's book about the NCNG and the era is set in the 1930's to early 1940's.